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ABSTRACT

The present invention provides a method of detecting oligomerization of G protein coupled receptors comprising: a) obtaining a first G protein coupled receptor fusion protein containing a fluorescence donor; b) obtaining a second G protein coupled receptor fusion protein containing a fluorescence acceptor; c) transfecting a cell with the G protein coupled receptor fusion proteins of a) and b); d) exciting the fluorescence donor at a particular wavelength; e) detecting fluorescence emission of the acceptor (FRET), such that if this emission is greater than the emission detected in control cells expressing only the acceptor, oligomerization of the G protein coupled receptors has been detected. The invention further provides methods of detecting agonists and antagonists of G protein coupled receptors by utilizing FRET.

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